



Seattle Garden Club

All The Buzz

March, 2021

www.seattlegardenclub.org

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February was a month full of lively SGC presentations! At the Hort meeting, our Floral Design Committee showed us the ropes of virtual shows. Applause goes the floral designers, judges, and photography advisers who made it all possible.

The backdrop for our Annual Business Meeting, led by President-Elect Barbara Feasey, was created by Kim Bishop and showcased Dabney Rohrbach's finance overview, Eliza Davidson's presentation of the Founders Fund projects, and the membership approval of our Community Projects with Lynn Mowe.

At the meeting Barbara announced that thanks to the generosity of several members, the endowment to support the Fragrance Garden is now in place!

Two outstanding SGC members were recognized for their dedication at Zone XII's Award Ceremony Feb. 16. Diana Neely received the Zone Award for her role as GCA Judging Chair and Iris Wagner received the Zone Creative Leadership Award after serving as the GCA Nominations Chair. Congratulations to both Diana and Iris!

With springtime near, our upcoming Hort and Photography Show schedules are now available and sign-ups are active. Thanks to the many who have developed these new opportunities for innovative show protocols.

As follow-up to GCA's National Affairs and Legislation Conference, we look forward to the suggestions Susy Titcomb and Susan Potts will be developing for ways we can work to abate climate change in our own homes and gardens.

Kim Bishop continues to enhance our SGC website. You'll note that Conservation's Outside Your Door project has a wealth of ideas for encouraging young people to enjoy nature. Also, don't miss Barbie Snapp's urban habitat video.

For Valentine's Day, Debby Smith, Laurie Riley, Candace Lancaster, and Burnley Snyder created beautiful "Tussie Mussie" nosegays for members at Parkshore. We deeply value all our Sustainers and look forward to small group gatherings with you before long.

Best to all, Shelley

Newsletter editor:

Stacey Campbell

Programs, E-news & Opportunities

Be sure to check the online master calendar for the latest information.

[Click here for the SGC Calender](#)



PLEASE SIGN-UP for SGC MEETINGS via [SIGN-UP-GENIUS \(SUG\)](#)

By using Sign-Up-Genius (SUG) as you rsvp for all SGC meetings you'll help us stay organized and it will help YOU with reminders and give you all the information you will need to join our zoom calls.

If we all learn to take a few minutes to learn the habit of using Sign-Up-Genius for all our meetings, our systems will run more smoothly, we'll have more time to learn from one another and have fun!

GCA Online

GCA is providing access to conferences and study groups to all members. Go to the GCA website to access these talks.

[GCA Homepage](#)

April 8, 2021 Conference	Floral Design
May 11-12, 2021 Meeting	GCA Annual

Have any articles or photos that would interest all of GCA?

If so, please send ideas first to, Margaret Williams,
Zone XII Bulletin Rep. -

mawilliams712@gmail.com



March 18th General Meeting at 10:00AM - Designing Children's Gardens Incorporating Flowers and Edibles

At the January general meeting, Allyson Hayward told us about 19th century garden designer, Gertrude Jekyll's interest in providing children with a small area to help them "love and value gardening" and to teach them "the three most important manual operations – digging, hoeing and raking." At our March meeting, landscape designer Annika McIntosh will continue this theme with her talk on "Designing children's gardens incorporating flowers and edibles".

Annika McIntosh is a former GCA Scholarship recipient and holds a bachelor's degree in Studio Art and a master's degree in Landscape Architecture. She has been an avid naturalist and gardener from an early age and for the past ten years, has headed her residential design-build company in the Seattle area.

Annika's past work and research has also touched on food security, green roofs, ecological literacy and garden/nutrition education for children, urban pedestrian environments, and streetscape design in the Seattle area. Annika welcomes your questions, and her talk will include handouts.

You'll receive an email invitation to sign up for the general meeting on SignUpGenius, plus a Zoom invitation with a link to join the meeting from 9:30AM onwards. Please email your announcements to me before the meeting.

Delphine, Program Chair



Floral Design



Thanks to the Garden club of Honolulu floral design group we are ALL invited to participate in a live webinar with Hitomi Gilliam. For those who have not seen her work, she is amazing and not to be missed. The registration information is attached to the flyer. Please sign up as soon possible since the date is 3/10/2021 noon PST. There is a small fee of \$25.00 to attend. This is also an amazing price as Hitomi's demos are always quite costly to join. This is for Zone XII floral design only so please just keep this in our club. Here is the link to sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/210277596604056>

For the love of flowers, Marilee
SGC Floral Design Chairperson

Horticulture Report

Come Zoom with us **Monday, March 1 at 10am** when the Hort Committee continues our “**Hort From the Heart**” theme as we celebrate springtime in our gardens.

Intrepid co-chairs Jenny Wyatt and Laurie Riley will provide important updates about **Reawakening**, the **SGC Club Hort Show, May 18 & 19**. Q & A to follow.

Learn about springtime rose activities and enjoy Carolyn Whittlesey and Suzette de Turenne’s fabulous 2nd video, “**No Nonsense Rose Care**”. There will be plenty of time for Q & A.

Want to be involved in a **Member Plant and Seed Share/Exchange**? January - April is the optimum time to divide our plants. Have you unearthed more “volunteers” than you can manage? Want to create a friendship garden with your favorite SGC friends’ special plants? Have a fabulous plant you just have to share? By **Friday, February 26**, please email a picture and name of your available plant(s) to Betsy Larson betsypepper@live.com

We want your funny and heartwarming **Provisional Talk Member Memories**! Let’s reassure our Provisionals and show them that everyone supports their Provisional Talk efforts. What was your single biggest memory? What was your topic and how did you feel about it? Where did you give your talk? What medium did you use and how did it go? We’ll be sharing these fun memories live at the meeting and we look forward to hearing your brief, encouraging remembrances.

Please send your **Hort Share** photos by **Friday, February 26** to Betsy Larson at betsypepper@live.com If you have an announcement please email Betsy Larson at betsypepper@live.com by **Friday, February 26** to be recognized.

Go [to SignUpGenius link here](#) for additional details and to sign up.

Go to the [Zoom](#) link here.

Horticulture Show

GET READY FOR REAWAKENING! TUESDAY MAY 18 - WEDNESDAY MAY 19

SGC is planning a small Club Hort Show this spring!

Unless Covid foils our plans, the Show will take place outside with limited in-person presence at Pam Green's home. Thank you, Pam!

Registration is now open for the four simple Hort Classes that anyone can enter. PLEASE KEEP THE PLANT OWNERSHIP DEADLINE IN MIND. PLANTS FOR CLASSES 1-3 MUST BE OWNED FOR TWO MONTHS, BY MARCH 19 AT THE LATEST.

We are disappointed that we are unable to accommodate cuts—one of SGC's specialties! Having only potted entries will allow us to maintain distancing protocols for dropping off and passing of entries on May 18, and then judging and picking up entries on May 19. Unfortunately, the Show will not be open to members or to the public, but it will be thoroughly photographed, and everyone will see a video of it at our June Annual Meeting. The attached Schedule explains the process. First come, first serve! Email Jenny Wyatt with the Class you'd like to enter: wyattjen@comcast.net or wyattjen@icloud.com (they all come to the same inbox).

Please plan to join in the fun and enter!

Jenny Wyatt and Laurie Riley,
Reawakening Co-Chairs

Class 1 Hibernating Four Entries

A collection of three or more different, culturally compatible rooted plants, including one northwest native, displayed in a bread basket with liner of the exhibitor's choice. Baskets should be made of natural woven material and sized to hold a large loaf of bread. Key Card Required.

Class Consultant: Laurie Riley

Class 2 Emerging Together Four Entries

Two identical rooted plants in two identical pots with saucers. Pots not to exceed 8" in diameter/diagonal. Specimens will be judged for their matching characteristics as well as cultural perfection and presentation.

Class Consultant: TBD

Class 3 Light of Day Four Entries

A collection of three or more rooted succulents arranged in a hypertufa container. The container may be borrowed, purchased or made by the exhibitor. It should be light enough to be easily carried by the exhibitor. Key Card Required

Class Consultant: Catherine Allan

Class 4 Wide Awake Par

A single rooted plant of exceptional horticultural merit, which does not qualify for entry elsewhere in the Show. Cut specimens, orchids or hanging baskets are not permitted. Containers may not exceed 14" diameter/diagonal.

A. Plants owned for six months to two years

B. Plants owned for more than two years

Class Consultant: Carey Davis

Conservation

Creating An Urban/Suburban Habitat for Late Fall, Winter and Early Spring - Barbie Snapp

Life is stressful right now, but it isn't just we humans that are struggling. As our world warms, wildlife is struggling as well. However, they are finding their way back into our cities and suburbs as they fly, wiggle, bound and hop into our parks and gardens. Who visits you? Squirrels and birds, of course. Bunnies? Raccoons? A snowy or a barred owl? A coyote? Beaver? Deer? All sorts of animals are coming into the human domain and as much as we can, I believe we should do our best to live side by side with animals - but we need to help them by providing the habitat they have lost...to us. We need to recreate wild spaces, linking them with native plantings in our parks, yards and even balconies to support our birds, bees, bats and beyond.

I love my bird feeders, they are an exuberant part of my habitat. Every day they give me tremendous joy, but on this day, February 16, 2021, we have been asked to bring in our bird feeders due to a substantial bloom of Salmonella from Pine Siskins that is now infecting other birds. While the disease isn't uncommon in the avian world, this significant nationwide spread of Salmonella is a sad example of why it is so imperative we create abundant natural fruit and seed rich habitats wherever we can.

Most of us have prolific spring through fall gardens that supply a tremendous amount of sustenance for our local wildlife. I would like to offer ideas of what we can do to extend and maintain a continual source of food, shelter, water and nesting sites throughout the lean months, from late fall through early spring...naturally.

Let your hidden corners and side yards get a little messy, with purpose. Yes, to save our birds, we do need to bring in our feeders until we are told otherwise; this makes it truly imperative that in this changing world, we plant *native* trees, shrubs and perennials, and that we create pollinator pathways and other necessities needed by our smaller urban and suburban dwellers.

Please click on the link below, it is worth your time. You will be treated to a lovely slideshow and in my notes, a plethora of ideas from NOT raking up all your Autumn leaves and why, to the benefits of bat boxes, creating hedgerows, pollinator habitats and bug hotels. You will also find planting lists, information addressing outdoor cats and links which support and expand on these suggestions.

As we well know, any day in the garden is a great day. Have fun cultivating your wild places, and at the end of the season leave some fruit on the trees and berries on the vine, let the stalks and seed heads in your garden and meadow dry out, then watch what comes into your sanctuary during the lean winter months and take joy in the life sustaining habitat you have created!

Select one of the following hot links to the [video](#) and [document](#),



Garden Giggles

**What do you get if you divide the circumference
of a pumpkin by its diameter?**

Pumpkin pi.

What do you call a stolen yam?

A hot potato.

Member Candid





Getting to Know Our Amazing Board Members



Introducing the sensational Susan Brickman

Susan, what is your committee?

I will finish my second year as Ways and Means Co-chair at the end of this year. It has been a blast. First I co-chaired with Catherine Mueller, and then with Cindy Bostwick. Amazing ladies to work with and boy did we have fun.

Being a co-chair of Ways and Means is challenging for sure, but it is a fun committee if you like to brain storm ideas and get creative. We are crossing our fingers that our “experiences” will be back for the next auction because they contribute so much to the camaraderie of our club.

What can you expect if you are part of this committee?

Most of the work on Ways and Means is done late August through mid December. If you are thinking of becoming part of the committee, you should be available those months.

What is your favorite plant-based activity?

My favorite plant based activity is probably tinkering in my garden with my dog and husband. We love moving things around and changing things up every spring. My husband is the vegetable guy and I love flowers.

Another activity I love is going to Pike Place market to buy fresh flowers for myself and to give to friends.

My ultimate plant based activity would be hiking out in nature. It's the way I connect with what is beyond myself.

Being in the mountains nourishes my soul.

What are some of your favorite plants and why?

My favorite plants are roses, lupine, dahlias and peonies. These are plants I learned to love in my parents' garden while growing up.

Cooking with Kay

BROWN SUGAR & SPICE BUNDT CAKE WITH CARAMEL RUM GLAZE

From our own Kay Baxter

PREP: 30 MINUTES

BAKING TIME: 1 HOUR

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

FOR THE CAKE:

3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 & 1/2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup unsalted butter, at room temp
1 & 1/2 cups firmly packed brown sugar (light or dark)
1/2 cup granulated sugar
4 large eggs
1 & 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 cup milk

FOR THE GLAZE:

1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar (light or dark)
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1/4 cup unsalted butter
1/4 cup heavy cream
2 to 3 teaspoons rum
1/2 to 1 cup powdered sugar
chopped nuts, optional

Preheat oven to 350°F. Thoroughly butter and flour a 12-cup Bundt pan.

Whisk together the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger, nutmeg, and salt. Set aside.

Using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the butter, brown sugar, and sugar until light and fluffy.

Add the eggs, one at a time, mixing well after each addition. Mix in the vanilla.

Reduce mixer speed to low. Add the flour in 3 portions, alternating with 2 portions of milk. Mix just until combined.

Transfer the batter to the prepared pan and spread evenly.

Bake 50 to 60 minutes, or until a pick inserted into the center comes out clean.

Cool in the pan for 15 minutes. Then transfer the cake to a wire rack to cool completely.

TO MAKE THE GLAZE:

Combine the brown sugar, sugar, butter, and cream in a medium saucepan. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally.

Bring to a boil and cook for 1 minute.

Remove the pan from the heat. Mix in the rum.

Add about 1/3 cup of confectioners' sugar and whisk to combine. Continue whisking while adding more sugar, a small amount at a time, until the mixture thickens. (I usually use close to 1 full cup of sugar to get the right consistency.) If the glaze stiffens up or gets lumpy, return it briefly to med-low heat and whisk briskly.

Pour the glaze over the cooled cake. Allow to cool and set. If you like, sprinkle with chopped nuts while the glaze is still soft.

Fragrance Garden

New SGC Endowment for Public (Fragrance) Garden!

Announcement made at annual Business meeting

The SGC Public (Fragrance) Garden fund to support maintenance of the Fragrance Garden at CUH was established in 2019 with a \$5,000 grant from Community Projects approved by the membership. We reached full funding of \$50,000 at the end of 2020 thanks to generous contributions from many members!

The \$50,000 plus interest in the reserve account will be used to establish our fifth endowment with the Seattle Foundation. Annual distributions from this new endowment will help cover increased costs for maintenance, along with future improvements and plantings in the garden.

Barbara Feasey, President-elect

Ways & Means

Ways and Means Newsletter

We continue to focus on how to move forward with our plans for the '21 SGC holiday luncheon and auction. Our "hybrid" idea is gaining momentum, and we appreciate the many ideas and suggestions given to us by all of you.

At the Annual Business meeting on Feb 18th members broke into small groups. One of the topics the groups discussed was what future auctions/holiday luncheons might look like. The following are some of the ideas generated by the breakout groups:

- Members wholeheartedly support a hybrid format for the auction
- The online auction made the competitive bidding easier and was fun
- There is concern that breaking the auction into two "events" may dilute the bidding the night before
- A suggestion was made to have two "seasonal auctions" one in May (perhaps focused on experiences) and one in December
- We need to offer more training to our technologically challenged members so that they can participate in the auction
- The online format allowed those members who were out of town to participate
- More items need to be offered
- The length of the auction needs to be addressed- what is the right amount of time?

Thank you for offering your ideas as we continue to develop our plans.

Warmly,
Sue Brickman and Cindy Bostwick
Ways and Means Co-chairs '20-'21

Awards

Iris Wagner received her certificate of the Zone XII 2020 Creative Leadership Award. She was recognized by GCA President Debbie Edwards via zoom at the February 16, 2021 Zone XII Awards Ceremony. Due to covid-19, presentation of her award was delayed for a year, but celebrated with great pleasure by all! She was also recognized at the Seattle Garden Club Annual Business Meeting yesterday. Congratulations Iris!!



Design Tips

Floral Design Tip of the Month

Trying to avoid floral foam?

Can't find your favorite antique frog?

Consider an alternative to the traditional metal frog — a plastic spiked disc used under furniture legs to protect carpeting!

They are clear, inexpensive, and come in packs of 4 on Amazon.

The “teeth” are just like those of a metal frog and hold your flowers in place when arranging.

* You may need to use some floral adhesive to secure it to the vessel as they are not as heavy as metal or glass frogs.



Something fun



Fried Maple leaves are a very popular snack in Osaka, and apparently have been for the last thousand years. The city of Minoh is particularly famous for their fried leaves. The Maple leaves are dipped and fried in Tempura batter, which gives them their unique taste. Chefs in Minoh usually store their leaves in barrels of salt for one year, which makes them particularly tasty.